

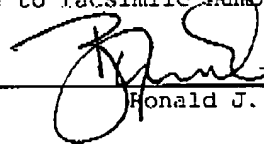
DEC 29 2006

PATENT
NON-FINAL

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/743,745 Confirmation No. 9090
Applicant : Shigekazu YASUOKA et al.
Filed : December 24, 2003
TC/A.U. : 1742
Examiner : Michael P. Alexander
Dkt. No. : SNY-048
Cust. No. : 20374

I hereby certify that this paper is being
facsimile transmitted on December 29, 2006,
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Office to facsimile number (571)273-8300.



Ronald J. Kubovcik

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
TO THE OFFICE ACTION DATED AUGUST 30, 2006**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

December 29, 2006

Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action dated August 30, 2006. A petition for a one-month extension of the period for responding to the Action is being filed concurrently herewith.

Please amend the application as directed below and consider the remarks that follow.

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